UNITED
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General Assembly
Security Council

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GENERAL

A/51/113
S/1996/276
12 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Items 67 and 79 of the
preliminary list*
ESTABLISHMENT OF A NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE IN THE REGION OF THE MIDDLE EAST
AFRICAN NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE TREATY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 12 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the pleasure to attach herewith the text of the Cairo Declaration adopted on the occasion of the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba) by the Foreign Ministers and heads of delegation attending the signing ceremony of the Treaty, held at Cairo, on 11 April 1996.

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under items 67 and 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nabil ELARABY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

* A/51/50.

ANNEX

Cairo Declaration, adopted on the occasion of the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba), at Cairo, on 11 April 1996

The African States signatories of the African Nuclear-Weapon Free-Zone Treaty (the Treaty of Pelindaba), meeting at Cairo, on 11 April 1996,

Recalling the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its first ordinary session, held at Cairo in 1964,

Recalling also the adoption by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-first ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa from 26 to 28 June 1995, of the final text of the Treaty,

Recalling further United Nations General Assembly resolution 50/78 of 12 December 1995, by which the Assembly welcomed the adoption of the African leaders of the final text of the Treaty,

Recognizing the valuable contribution that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in Latin America and the Caribbean, South Pacific and South-East Asia have made to the process of nuclear non-proliferation,

Stressing the importance of promoting regional and international cooperation for the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes in the interest of sustainable social and economic development of the African continent,

Solemnly declare that the signing of the Treaty further consolidates global efforts towards the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons including the objectives of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and is a highly significant contribution to the enhancement of international peace and security;

Invite the African States to ratify the Treaty as soon as possible so that it can enter into force without delay;

Call upon the nuclear-weapon States as well as the States contemplated in Protocol III to sign and ratify the relevant protocols to the Treaty as soon as possible;

Emphasize that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, especially in regions of tension, such as the Middle East, on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the regions concerned, enhances global and regional peace and security;

Call upon all those States who have not yet done so to adhere to the NPT;

Call upon the nuclear-weapon States to actively pursue the goal of a nuclear-weapon-free world as embodied in article VI of the NPT, through the urgent negotiation of agreements with effective measures of verification towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons at the earliest possible time;

Decide that the first session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty shall be held not later than one year after its entry into force, and endorse the establishment of the headquarters of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy in South Africa;

Request the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in accordance with resolution 50/78, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 12 December 1995, to provide the necessary assistance in 1996 in order to achieve the aims of the present declaration.

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GENERAL

S/1996/277
12 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF GUINEA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to request that the Security Council extend an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to His Excellency Ambassador Engin A. Ansay, Permanent Observer of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to the United Nations, during the Council's discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the occupied Arab territories".

(Signed) Aboubacar DIONE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Chairman of the Islamic Group

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UNITED
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Security Council

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S/1996/278
11 April 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 11 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the statement issued by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia on 10 April 1996 concerning the situation in Liberia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Slaheddine ABDELLAH
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Tunisia
to the United Nations

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Annex

Statement by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Tunisia concerning the situation in Liberia

Tunisia, which is following the deterioration in the situation in Liberia with deep concern, expresses its alarm at the serious events taking place in that country in recent days.

While urging the parties to control themselves and maintain calm, it urgently appeals to them to respect the cease-fire and to facilitate the implementation of the agreements concluded with a view to achieving a definitive and peaceful solution to the crisis, thereby allowing Liberia to restore security and stability and to devote itself fully to working for progress and the welfare of its people.

Tunisia, which has consistently worked with determination to strengthen stability in Liberia, appeals urgently to all the parties, particularly the States of the region, to intensify their efforts with a view to saving peace in Liberia through respect for the agreements concluded with regard to this conflict, especially the Abuja Agreement.

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Security Council

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S/1996/279
12 April 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 12 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On 15 April 1986, the United States of America launched a brutal and vicious attack on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya during which hundreds of American aircraft dropped "smart bombs" by night on the residence of the Leader of the Great Revolution, brother Muammar Qaddafi, and on civilian targets in the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi, killing Qaddafi's adopted daughter and dozens of women and children and wounding hundreds of others in their sleep.

The whole world denounced this attack and protested against it at all levels, believing that it represented the most abject form of State terrorism. The General Assembly condemned it by an overwhelming majority and affirmed, in its resolution 41/38, the right of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to receive appropriate compensation for the material and human losses inflicted upon it. The Security Council, however, was unable to condemn the attack because the United States of America, the United Kingdom and France abused their privilege which is the right of veto. To date, terrorism in the form of the United States veto continues to paralyse the Council's effectiveness and makes the Council incapable of punishing the aggressor and adopting a resolution which would force the perpetrators to be brought to justice so that justice might be done. Yet the same Council was suddenly able to demonstrate its effectiveness when it adopted, under pressure from the United States of America, resolutions imposing harshly unjust sanctions against the people of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in a matter which was unfairly politicized and whose disastrous effects continue to be felt by the Libyan people because the United States of America refuses to settle it by peaceful means and agree to have the two persons suspected of involvement in the Lockerbie affair tried in a neutral country or at the seat of the International Court of Justice.

This blatant inconsistency in the way the Security Council handles international affairs shows the extent of the influence of the United States of America in the Council and the manner in which that country slants it in order to realize its aspirations and murderous plans. The United States has put pressure on the Council to become involved in a legal dispute which is not of its competence and has prevented the Council from expressing the international

community's will by condemning the blatant attack which was perpetrated under false pretenses, as German investigations subsequently showed.

The Charter confers on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, on the basis of the principle of neutrality and the sovereign equality of States. For this reason it must renounce the use of two different standards and base its actions on the principles of the Charter; it must reflect the will of the international community as expressed in General Assembly resolution 41/38, the implementation of which we await, just as we wait for the Security Council to follow up on the concrete measures the resolution calls upon it to take by remaining seized of the question of the attack by the United States of America against the people of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mohamed A. AZWAI
Permanent Representative

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S/1996/280
14 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 13 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request Your Excellency to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the grave situation in Lebanon resulting from the large-scale Israeli bombardment of many towns and villages in my country, including the southern suburb of Beirut, causing alarming numbers of civilian dead and wounded, thousands of displaced persons and severe damage to property. These acts of aggression are continuing unabated for the third consecutive day. They constitute further flagrant violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon and the Charter of the United Nations and pose a great threat to international peace and security.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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S/1996/281
14 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 13 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF LEBANON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, and pursuant to my letter to Your Excellency this morning, I would like to ask Your Excellency to convene an urgent meeting of the Security Council tomorrow afternoon, Sunday, 14 April 1996.

(Signed) Samir MOUBARAK
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-09375 (E) 140496

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11 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 28
THE SITUATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 10 April 1996 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith for your perusal the text of the "Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership", adopted at the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina, held at Sarajevo today, 10 April 1996 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this Declaration circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Aboubacar DIONE
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Chairman a.i. of the OIC Contact
Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina

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ANNEX

Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership, adopted by the Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Enlarged Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina was held at Sarajevo, Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 10 April 1996 to review the progress in the implementation of the Dayton Agreement and assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Ministerial Meeting was attended by the representatives of Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, Malaysia, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and Turkey, along with the Secretary General of OIC.

Reaffirming all previous resolutions and declarations adopted by OIC, in particular the Special Declaration on Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted by the Seventh Islamic Summit Conference at Casablanca in December 1994 and the OIC Action Plan to implement the Dayton Agreement, adopted by the Twenty-third Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers at Conakry in December 1995.

In adopting the Sarajevo Declaration of Friendship and Partnership with the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Ministers paid tribute to the valiant struggle of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina in defending the ideals of freedom, tolerance, democracy and justice throughout the four long years of aggression and genocide and decided to:

1. Reaffirm their commitment to the integrity and sovereignty of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina within its internationally recognized borders and, in this context, support the "Declaration of Integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina", signed on 3 April 1996 by eminent personalities and parties of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. Fully support the complete, impartial and effective implementation of the Dayton Agreement and express the willingness of OIC member States to participate more effectively in the implementation process, including the Implementation Force, the Steering Board, the International Police Task Force, regional stabilization negotiations under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the reconstruction work;

3. Express full support for the establishment of a democratic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

4. Underline the importance of the mission of the High Representative, Mr. Carl Bildt and encourage him to intensify his efforts for the full and impartial implementation of the civilian aspects of the Dayton Agreement and, in this regard, emphasize the need for more coordination between the OIC Contact Group and the five nation Contact Group in the Steering Board and through ministerial and expert-level meetings;

5. Call upon the mid-term conference of the Peace Implementation Council, which is to take place in Florence, Italy, on 13 and 14 June 1996, to take account of the high importance of the full and effective implementation of the civilian aspects of the Agreement and to mobilize more political effort in this regard;

6. Call on the international community to strongly assist in building peace and the pursuance of reconciliation and democratization in Bosnia and Herzegovina by supporting the forces of democracy and integration;

7. Emphasize the importance and urgency of adequate international contributions to the imperative task of reconstruction of Bosnia and Herzegovina and express the willingness of OIC member States to provide resources for the reconstruction programme, including through the generous participation of OIC member States at the pledging conference to be held at Brussels on 12 and 13 April 1996;

8. Support the strengthening of the Federation as one of two entities of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina with a democratic, multi-ethnic, multi-religious and multi-cultural society, which is an essential precondition for the smooth reintegration of the whole State of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

9. Urge all those involved in the implementation process to undertake urgent and effective measures to stop the tendency of ethnic partition of the State of Bosnia and Herzegovina and draw the attention of the international community to the serious threat to the stability of the entire Balkan region as a result of the prevailing tendency to support ethnic instead of democratic forces;

10. Strongly call for the full and effective implementation of the relevant provisions of the Dayton Agreement, particularly the prosecution of those indicted by the International War Crimes Tribunal, as well as those responsible for genocide, ethnic cleansing and other crimes against humanity in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and, in this respect, emphasize that the Security Council should be seized with the compliance of the mandate of the Tribunal in accordance with relevant Security Council resolutions;

11. Ask for effective implementation of the provisions relating to reconciliation, democratization, and free and fair elections, thus creating conditions for the safe and orderly return of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes of origin;

12. Reiterate their continued commitment in assisting the Government and people of Bosnia and Herzegovina, bilaterally, through the Assistance Mobilization Group (AMG), as well as the institutions and organs of OIC, and express willingness to provide urgent and adequate resources for the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes and projects aimed at helping those in urgent need and to create jobs, particularly for the demobilized soldiers, and in this regard reaffirm the mandate and role of AMG in the post-Dayton phase;

13. Call on all countries, including OIC countries, which have not yet done so, to establish diplomatic relations with the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to conclude agreements on economic, technological and cultural cooperation;

14. Express full support to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its case in the International Court of Justice against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) on genocide;

15. Urge the High Representative to assist in arranging compensation for the losses inflicted upon the suburbs of Sarajevo by the criminal Serb elements during the period of transfer of authority from the Serb entity to the Federation, using the funds aimed at reconstructing the Serb entity;

16. Reiterate the position of their Governments to freeze the assets of former Yugoslavia until the issue of succession is settled and call on other members of the United Nations to do so immediately in accordance with paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1022 (1995) of 22 November 1995;

17. Provide military assistance to the Government of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, particularly in establishing the army of the Federation, in the spirit of the Dayton Peace Agreement and Security Council resolution 1021 (1995) of 22 November 1995, in order to build up, including through the training and equipment programme, its defence capabilities, aimed at establishing a military balance and to ensure deterrence against any possible future aggression;

18. Urge the international community to prevail upon the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) to stop discriminatory and repressive measures against Bosniaks of Sanjak, Albanian people of Kosovo and other Muslims throughout its territory, as well as against non-Serbs in Vojvodina;

19. Request the Chairman of the Contact Group to address a communication to the Secretary-General of the United Nations with a request to circulate this Declaration as a document of the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.

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General Assembly
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15 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fiftieth session
Agenda item 55
QUESTION OF CYPRUS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 11 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the airspace of the Republic of Cyprus and of the flight information region of Nicosia by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force.

On 11 April 1996, a formation of two Turkish Air Force aerial reconnaissance aircraft, RF-4, entered without permission the north-western section of the Nicosia flight information region, flying at an altitude of 34,000 feet. The two aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying at 15,000 feet and exited the Nicosia flight information region, one at 1137 hours and the other at 1135 hours, flying in the direction of Turkey.

On 10 April 1996, another formation of two Turkish Air Force aircraft, RF-4, violated Cyprus airspace, entering at 1530 hours the north-western flight information region of Nicosia at an altitude of 2,000 to 30,000 feet. The two aircraft flew along the western and southern coast of Cyprus and exited the north-eastern Nicosia flight information region at 1604 hours returning to Turkey.

Another formation of two Turkish Air Force aerial reconnaissance aircraft, RF-4, violated Cyprus airspace on 10 April 1996, at 1109 hours, entering the Nicosia north-western flight information region at an altitude of 32,800 feet. One of the aircraft overflew the Kormakitis area at an altitude of 32,800 feet, while the second one violated Cyprus airspace from 1136 to 1200 hours, flying at an altitude of 2,400 to 5,000 feet from Morphou to Lefkonico. The two aircraft met north of Kormakitis at 1210 hours and they exited the Nicosia flight information region in a north-western direction towards Turkey.

The RF-4 aircraft that violated the Cyprus airspace are aerial reconnaissance aircraft and it is believed that their mission was for aerial photographic reconnaissance of the coastal and other areas of Cyprus.

On 25 March 1996, a formation of two Turkish Air Force aircraft, F-4, entered from 1114 to 1117 hours the north-eastern flight information region of Nicosia at an altitude of 30,000 feet, flying at a speed of 373-534 knots. Another formation of two F-4 Turkish aircraft entered the north-eastern and eastern Nicosia flight information region from 1244 to 1259 hours on 25 March 1996, flying at an altitude of 26,000 to 35,000 feet.

The repeated violations of the Nicosia flight information region and of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkish military aircraft are indicative of the provocative attitude of Turkey, which in 1974 invaded and occupied 37 per cent of the territory of the Republic of Cyprus.

At the same time, such unauthorized intrusions into the Nicosia flight information region are in violation of international air traffic rules and seriously endanger civil aviation flights over Cyprus.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I wish to strongly protest against these violations of the Nicosia flight information region and of the Republic's airspace by Turkish Air Force aircraft. These violations of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus are contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and to the resolutions of the General Assembly and of the Security Council on the question of Cyprus.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 55, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nicos AGATHOCLEOUS
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Cyprus
to the United Nations

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Security Council

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S/1996/284
15 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN ABKHAZIA, GEORGIA

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of paragraph 13 of resolution 1036 (1996) of 12 January 1996, by which the Security Council requested me to report after three months from the date of the adoption of that resolution on all aspects of the situation in Abkhazia, Georgia, including the operations of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG). It is based on information available to the Secretariat up to 4 April 1996. My previous report was issued on 2 January 1996 (S/1996/5).

II. POLITICAL ASPECTS

2. The Georgian-Abkhaz peace process remains stalled. During the reporting period, the Russian Federation, in its capacity as facilitator, further intensified its efforts, in consultation with my Special Envoy, Ambassador Edouard Brunner, and his resident Deputy, Mr. Liviu Bota, with the aim of bringing the two sides closer to compromise solutions. In addition, several direct contacts between representatives of the two sides took place in Moscow.

3. My Special Envoy and his Deputy maintained close contact with the President of Georgia, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, and with the Abkhaz leader, Mr. Vladislav Ardzinba, as well as with the Georgian and Abkhaz representatives in Moscow. Both held numerous consultations with other political figures on the two sides, with the aim of creating an environment conducive to the acceptance of compromises. They also had bilateral consultations with the Russian facilitator in Paris on 24 and 25 January 1996 and in Moscow on 4 and 5 March 1996, where my Special Envoy held fruitful discussions with the Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation, Mr. Yevgeny Primakov, and other senior government officials. Furthermore, my Special Envoy and his Deputy continued to have regular consultations with senior representatives of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and, during his visit to Headquarters on 15 and 16 February 1996, I discussed the Georgian-Abkhaz peace process with the Secretary-General of OSCE, Mr. Wilhelm Höynck.

4. My Special Envoy had been planning to make a visit to the area and to Moscow in mid-March, but as he was indisposed at that time, I asked my Special Adviser, Mr. Ismat Kittani, to undertake this visit. Together with the Deputy Special Envoy he held consultations from 14 to 18 March 1996 with President Shevardnadze at Tbilisi, with Mr. Ardzinba at Sukhumi and with the Russian First Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Pastukhov, in Moscow. The parties had before them a draft protocol (see S/1996/5, para. 40). Following Mr. Kittani's visit, he briefed me and my Special Envoy on his mission on 19 March 1996 at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

5. Both sides reaffirmed their desire for a political solution and their determination to continue the negotiation process until a comprehensive political settlement was achieved. Both expressed the wish that United Nations efforts be strengthened.

6. The key issue continues to be the future political status of Abkhazia. The Georgian side has elaborated proposals for the status of Abkhazia within the framework of a federal State and transmitted them to the Security Council on 5 March 1996 (S/1996/165). The Abkhaz side has presented an alternative version of the draft protocol referred to in paragraph 4 above which envisages that the "two sides shall enjoy equal rights" and would agree to live together in a "Federative Union".

7. There have been a number of significant political and other developments in the region that directly or indirectly affect the Georgian-Abkhaz peace process.

8. The Council of Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) met in Moscow on 19 January 1996 and adopted, inter alia, two decisions regarding the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia (A/51/62-S/1996/74). These extended the mandate of the CIS peace-keeping force for three months, to 19 April 1996, and entrusted the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Council of Ministers of Defence of CIS with the preparation, by 19 February 1996, of the draft of a new mandate for the CIS peace-keeping force on the basis of the Georgian proposals (see S/1996/5, para. 4), with the possible extension of its stationing in the conflict zone up to 19 July 1996. Subsequent consultations at the expert level among the CIS countries did not result in an agreement on a new mandate before the deadline of 19 February 1996.

9. At a meeting of the CIS Foreign Ministers' Council in Moscow on 2 April 1996, it again proved impossible to reach agreement on the continuation of the mandate of the CIS force. The Government of Georgia proposed that a new monitoring force be created to oversee previous CIS decisions concerning, inter alia, sanctions against Abkhazia. This was not, however, accepted. The Georgian side indicated that it did not want the CIS force to be withdrawn but, at the same time, did not want it to continue with its present mandate. The meeting decided to take note of the Government's position and to ask the Executive Secretary of CIS to continue to examine the issue and report to the Heads of State of CIS by 19 April. In the meantime, the CIS troops would remain.

10. The Abkhaz authorities had taken exception to the decisions of the Council of Heads of State of CIS in January. They stated that they would not recognize

a new mandate of the CIS peace-keeping force based on the Georgian proposals and that the current mandate could only be changed with the consent of the two parties.

11. The Georgian Parliament has ratified the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Good-Neighbourliness signed between the Republic of Georgia and the Russian Federation on 3 February 1994.

12. Several initiatives regarding peace and stability in the Caucasus have been put forward. Among them are the initiative of President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation on the "Great Caucasus", President Shevardnadze's proposals "For a Peaceful Caucasus" and the "Declaration on Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Caucasus Region", which was signed by the Presidents of Azerbaijan and Georgia during the former's visit to Tbilisi on 8 March 1996 (see A/51/89).

13. On 18 and 19 March 1996, President Shevardnadze paid an official visit to the Russian Federation. In the discussion on the situation in the Caucasus, Presidents Yeltsin and Shevardnadze agreed that the stabilization of the political situation and the strengthening of mutual trust were prerequisites for the restoration in the Caucasus of lasting peace and mutual security, economic recovery and the preservation of its unique natural heritage. The achievement of these goals required, first of all, the concerted efforts of the Russian Federation and Georgia and those of the other countries of Trans-caucasia with the assistance of other interested States and international organizations. The Presidents reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of the territorial integrity of States and the inviolability of existing borders and strongly condemned separatism and terrorism in all their aspects.

14. Regarding the conflict in Abkhazia, both Presidents expressed their conviction that all the possibilities for settling the conflict through peaceful political means had not yet been exhausted and that there was no reasonable alternative to settling the conflict in this manner. They considered that the negotiations that were being held under United Nations auspices, with the assistance of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and with the Russian Federation acting as facilitator, had brought the sides closer to a comprehensive political settlement. The President of the Russian Federation also welcomed the restoration of direct contacts between representatives of the parties in the conflict, which in his opinion could help bring the negotiation process to a successful conclusion. The search for mutually acceptable agreements should be conducted with due consideration for relevant Security Council resolutions, OSCE documents and the provisions of the documents on the conflict in Abkhazia that were collectively drafted and adopted by CIS at Almaty and Minsk. Both Presidents called upon the member States of CIS to strictly observe its decisions of 19 January 1996 regarding Abkhazia. They furthermore considered the implementation of decisive new measures to ensure the organized return of refugees and displaced persons to their domiciles, a task which they considered urgent and of paramount importance.

15. The Abkhaz authorities reacted negatively to the subsequent enforcement measures taken by the Russian authorities to implement the January decisions of the Council of Heads of State of CIS. A statement issued by the "Government of

the Republic of Abkhazia" on 21 March 1996 argued that "far-fetched pretexts" were being used to find ways to toughen the blockade. However, at a time when there were no constitutional ties between Abkhazia and Georgia, which in the Abkhaz view is confirmed by the two sides' Declaration of 4 April 1994 "on measures for a political settlement of the Georgian/Abkhaz conflict", agreements or treaties concluded with Georgia that affected Abkhazia's interests could not be legally binding in Abkhazia. The Abkhaz "Parliament" was convened in a special session on 22 March 1996.

16. Following tension in the port of Sukhumi on 23 March 1996 because of the implementation of the enforcement measures, consultations took place between the commanders of the Russian border troops and the Abkhaz leadership and calm was eventually restored. Mr. Ardzinba, in a statement dated 27 March 1996, said that if the enforcement measures agreed upon between the Russian Federation and Georgia continued, he would hold a referendum on the question of whom the people of Abkhazia would prefer to have ties with: Georgia or the Russian Federation. He also stated that, meanwhile, the Abkhaz side would not participate in any negotiations with Georgia on the political settlement of the conflict. The Secretariat has been informed, however, that Abkhaz "Prime Minister" Gagulia has held talks in Moscow with Foreign Minister Primakov and other senior government officials in the first week of April 1996.

III. HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

17. The humanitarian situation continues to be difficult. In February 1996, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations, with representatives from donor Governments, conducted a mission to Georgia within the context of a humanitarian needs assessment for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. The findings for the three countries were discussed by humanitarian partners and government authorities of the three countries at a meeting organized by the United Nations at Tbilisi on 5 and 6 March 1996. Regarding Georgia, the meeting expressed the view that humanitarian needs were generally covered. However it was necessary to target assistance better to ensure that those who were marginalized and most vulnerable received it. In addition, as the Government of Georgia continued to introduce a series of reform measures, it might have, in the short run, led to new humanitarian needs for vulnerable groups, for example, those on fixed government incomes and/or pensions. Humanitarian agencies would need to monitor their situation closely and provide assistance as needed.

18. In Abkhazia, the food situation has not seriously deteriorated. The 19 January decision of the Council of Heads of States of CIS does not appear to have had much effect on the availability of essential goods. At Gali, food continues to arrive from across the Inguri River to supplement the local market, though traders have to pay high taxes and a passage fee is levied by the Abkhaz border guards.

A. Situation of refugees and displaced persons

19. The situation of displaced persons has not changed significantly during the reporting period. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has reported that movements in both directions across the Inguri River continue, both at the official and at the unofficial crossing points. UNHCR has distributed construction materials to repair destroyed houses in the village of Labra in Ochamchira district. It has designed a programme for repairing 23 schools in the Gali region, for the further rehabilitation of the Gali hospital and for income-generating projects.

20. UNHCR currently has two international staff based at Gali. This permits close project control, daily liaison with UNOMIG, non-governmental organizations and the local population.

B. Human rights

21. As part of my effort to find ways of improving the observance of human rights in the region, my Special Envoy and his Deputy have initiated consultations with the Abkhaz authorities on a programme for the protection and promotion of human rights in Abkhazia. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr. Ayala Lasso, welcomed this initiative and sent a mission to Sukhumi on 21-24 February 1996. I am pleased to report that the Abkhaz authorities have agreed with the proposed programme, which is to be carried out by the High Commissioner in cooperation with OSCE. The text of the programme is attached (see annex I).

IV. OPERATIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN GEORGIA

22. During the period covered by the present report, UNOMIG continued to fulfil the tasks mandated by the Security Council, operating in parts of the security and restricted weapons zones and the Kodori valley. The Head of Mission and Deputy Special Envoy operates at my request from both Tbilisi and Sukhumi, and the Chief Military Observer, Major-General Per Källström (Sweden), is based at Sukhumi. The Mission continues at its full authorized strength of 136 military observers drawn from 23 countries (see annex II), although the actual number on the ground may at times vary owing to rotations.

23. The deployment of UNOMIG remains as described in my report of 2 January 1996 (S/1996/5, para. 17). The main headquarters is at Sukhumi, the administrative headquarters is at Pitsunda, and there are two sector headquarters at Gali and Zugdidi, which have 54 and 39 military observers respectively (see attached map). There are four military observers at Tbilisi, three of whom are attached to the liaison office and one to the air operations office.

24. The concept of operations remains as previously reported, except for the establishment of one additional team base in each of the two sectors. Thus, the mission now has seven team bases (four in the Gali sector, at Inguri Ges,

Otobaya, Zemo-Bargevi and Gali; and three in the Zugdidi sector, at Dzvari, Darcheli and Zugdidi). These bases were designed to provide a constant presence in sensitive areas and enable UNOMIG to cooperate closely with the CIS peace-keeping force.

25. However, because of the threat posed by mines in the security and restricted weapons zones on the north side of the Inguri River (see para. 34 below), UNOMIG has temporarily suspended its vehicle patrols in the area. Patrolling along main roads in the security zone is conducted only when the CIS peace-keeping force declares the roads clear of mines. These temporary movement restrictions will keep the observers out of harm's way but will, in effect, prevent them from implementing their mandate fully until new security arrangements are put in place. There is so far no clear evidence as to who is planting these mines. It is usually the responsibility of the authorities on whose territory a peace-keeping operation is deployed to ensure that a suitable environment exists for unarmed United Nations observers to carry out their duties. The situation, however, is complicated. The Georgian authorities are not present in the Gali sector and the Abkhaz authorities, who themselves are the victims of mine incidents, have little control over the area and do not have any meaningful mine-clearing capability. Therefore, although UNOMIG is exploring with both sides ways of enhancing the Mission's safety, it is doubtful that concrete action can be taken by them any time soon. UNOMIG is also exploring measures with the CIS peace-keeping force that could improve the safety of UNOMIG personnel in the areas where the force is deployed. In the meantime, a team of demining experts is being sent to the area in order to train the observers in mine awareness and on the use of mine-detection equipment.

26. The Kodori valley team base at Azhara, which was closed for the winter on 4 December 1995 (see S/1996/5, para. 19), should be reopened by mid-April. In the meantime, UNOMIG has been patrolling the western part of the valley on a daily basis and the observers have had frequent meetings with CIS peace-keeping force and Abkhaz Army units operating in the valley. They also have had a number of meetings with the local administration.

27. A civilian-pattern aircraft is being made available to UNOMIG by the Government of Switzerland at no cost to the United Nations. The aircraft, which should soon become operational, will enhance the Mission's efficiency by facilitating the movement of cargo and personnel into and out of its area of responsibility. It will also be used for medical evacuation.

28. The Government of Switzerland has also recently contributed an amount of 400,000 Swiss francs to UNOMIG. The Government of the Republic of Korea has contributed an amount of $20,000 for the voluntary fund mentioned in paragraph 10 of Security Council resolution 937 (1994) of 21 July 1994 and has expressed the wish that this contribution be applied towards the implementation of the Agreement on a Cease-fire and Separation of Forces signed by the Georgian and Abkhaz authorities in Moscow on 14 May 1994, particularly towards enhancing the safety of UNOMIG personnel.

29. Cooperation and communication with the Government of Georgia and the Abkhaz authorities have remained satisfactory. There are now weekly meetings, chaired by UNOMIG, between the Georgian police and the Abkhaz militia, during which

issues related to general security in the security and restricted weapons zones on the Abkhaz side of the Inguri River are discussed.

30. The weekly quadripartite meetings chaired by the CIS peace-keeping force continue to take place, following their resumption in October 1995 after a six-month interruption (see S/1996/5, para. 22). They are attended by the Chief of Staff of the CIS peace-keeping force, the Chief Military Observer of UNOMIG and representatives of the Gali and Zugdidi local administrations. Since the establishment of the weekly meetings between the Georgian police and the Abkhaz militia referred to above, the quadripartite meetings have dealt mainly with administrative matters and, occasionally, with security, hostage exchange and humanitarian issues.

31. UNOMIG has continued to cooperate with UNHCR and with international and non-governmental organizations. Biweekly formal meetings are held during which matters of mutual concern, including security, are discussed.

V. SITUATION ON THE GROUND

A. General

32. During the reporting period, the situation in the UNOMIG area of responsibility remained unsettled and tense and there was an escalation of violence in the Gali sector. One especially serious incident occurred on 5 January 1996, when eight members of a Georgian family were murdered. The perpetrators of this crime have not been found. There has also been a large number of looting incidents in villages in the vicinity of the Gali canal. As already reported, such lootings are often carried out by Abkhaz military personnel manning checkpoints along the canal. Although the Abkhaz army has made efforts to improve the situation, the local population remains suspicious of its soldiers. There have also been a number of common crime incidents in other parts of the security and restricted weapons zones north of the Inguri River.

33. Following a series of hostage-taking incidents that began in early February, UNOMIG initiated negotiations between the Georgian and Abkhaz sides to try to resolve the problem. The two sides have now agreed to exchange all currently held hostages and to consider kidnapping a crime whose authors will be arrested and prosecuted. During the month of March, UNOMIG assisted in the exchange of 13 hostages - 11 held by the Abkhaz side and two by the Georgian side. Regrettably, one of the Georgian hostages was killed by private persons in Abkhazia. The Mission is continuing its efforts to bring this problem to an end.

34. There were six road mine incidents during the reporting period. In one of these, on 9 March 1996, a UNOMIG patrol vehicle drove onto an anti-tank mine in the Gali sector in the restricted weapons zone, instantly killing the driver, Lt. Col. Muhammed Hussain of Bangladesh. The vehicle's two other passengers - a Hungarian military observer and a local interpreter - also suffered injuries in the incident. The other incidents caused the death of one Abkhaz army officer and that of three local civilians. On 3 April 1996 the CIS peace-keeping force

found a newly laid anti-tank mine on a road in the Gali sector in the security zone that is used daily by UNOMIG and the force. As mentioned above, there is so far no clear evidence as to who planted these mines.

35. The continuing and pervasive lawlessness in the security and restricted weapons zones in the Gali Sector is having a negative effect on the ability of UNOMIG to meet its mandated tasks. Since my report of 2 January 1996 (S/1996/5), there have been three incidents in the Gali sector where UNOMIG personnel were robbed at gunpoint. Joint patrols with the CIS peace-keeping force north of the Gali canal, which were agreed upon, should reduce the frequency of such incidents and enhance the safety of the observers, once the current movement restrictions end.

36. Council members will recall that, in order to reduce ambiguity to the minimum, UNOMIG has taken the provision of the Moscow agreement of 14 May 1994 relating to the presence of armed forces in the security zone to mean that no member of the armed forces of either side, with or without a weapon and in or out of uniform, is authorized to be present in the security zone. Accordingly, the presence of such a member in the zone is deemed to constitute a violation of the agreement (see S/1996/5, para. 27). During the reporting period, there were 15 such violations. These violations included the presence in Zugdidi of a Georgian army recruiting office and that of a signals unit that supports the Chief Military Observer of the Government of Georgia. In addition, a main battle tank was deployed in late February for almost two weeks near the village of Kulovi, in the restricted weapons zone on the Georgian side of the Inguri River. The Government of Georgia has not responded to UNOMIG protests of some of these violations. The rest concern army personnel entering the security zone on both sides of the Inguri River, in many cases to visit their families while on leave.

B. Security and restricted weapons zones

37. The security and restricted weapons zones on each side of the Inguri River are affected by two different sets of problems. In the Gali sector, the main problem is general lawlessness and the commission of criminal acts against the local population. The perpetrators of these acts are rarely caught and are often not even sought by the authorities, usually because of lack of resources. In the Zugdidi sector, the main issue is tension among the internally displaced persons who are anxious to return to their homes on the other bank of the river but are unwilling to do so because of concerns about their security.

38. As mentioned in my previous report (S/1996/5, para. 29), the Abkhaz side has responded partially to the Mission's protest concerning the difficulties it has encountered in gaining access to the Ochamchira heavy-weapons storage site by providing UNOMIG with a document outlining the location and condition of all pieces of equipment. The Georgian response, however, is still awaited.

C. Kodori valley

39. Owing to the temporary closure of the Azhara team base, UNOMIG lacks reliable information about the situation in the Kodori valley. However, the Mission has not been told of any incident in the area and its meetings with the local administration indicate that conditions there are stable. None the less, the Svanetians remain suspicious of the Abkhaz Army.

VI. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS OBSERVER MISSION IN GEORGIA AND THE COLLECTIVE PEACE-KEEPING FORCE OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES

40. Cooperation between UNOMIG and the CIS peace-keeping force continues to be satisfactory at all levels. Regular meetings are held to discuss issues of mutual concern. Cooperation in the Gali sector has been particularly good, with an increase in joint patrolling which is having positive operational results. Furthermore, the force provided the Mission with much-needed assistance during the mine incident of 9 March 1996 described in paragraph 34 above.

VII. SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS

41. Emergency relief and humanitarian aid continue to be the predominant modes of United Nations assistance and other donors' support to Georgia. At the same time, there is increasing awareness of the need to support transitional activities as Georgia moves into a post-emergency phase. This was recently reconfirmed at the appeal meeting (organized by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs) in March 1996, where donors, United Nations agencies, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and government officials from Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia met to discuss humanitarian needs in the region.

42. However, there is a wide range of other development initiatives. The Bretton Woods institutions, the European Union, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and bilateral donors are assisting Georgia to evolve from its current status of a recipient of humanitarian aid into a self-reliant State.

43. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has continued to provide stand-by arrangements and in particular has enhanced its structural adjustment facility for Georgia. Technical assistance provided by IMF, the World Bank and bilateral donors covers the fields of banking, taxation and support for the lari, which became the sole currency in Georgia since its introduction on 2 October 1995 and has maintained its stability.

44. As for other United Nations specialized agencies and programmes, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization and the World Food Programme are providing operational support for basic social services that would normally be provided by the Government. UNICEF has begun to undertake a number of projects in the field of public health, including an expanded programme of immunization in cooperation with the Georgian Ministry of Health. This support also involves capacity-building in the education, health and family planning sectors. UNDP, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations

Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Environment Programme are providing the Government of Georgia with policy advice for capacity-building in the economic and social sectors. Current UNDP programmes include an aid coordination initiative aimed at helping government authorities to mobilize resources, create systems and train staff in aid management and coordination mechanisms. UNDP is also funding projects in public administration, democratization assistance to Parliament (ombudsman system), environment, agriculture (credit union with the support of the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Bank), energy, audit and management information system, statistics, including the preparation of national human development reports and, together with UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration, migration services.

VIII. OBSERVATIONS

45. Despite many months of vigorous efforts and intensive negotiations by the Russian Federation, in its capacity as facilitator, neither side has signed the draft protocol on the principal elements of a settlement of this conflict, mainly because of continued disagreement over the political status of Abkhazia. While this stalemate continues, there can be no significant improvement in the situation of displaced persons and refugees, whose plight is a cause of great concern.

46. The Abkhaz leadership now recognizes that Abkhazia will be part of a single Georgian State within the boundaries of the former Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic as at 21 December 1991. It also agrees that the State should be "federative" in nature. But pronounced differences remain over the constitutional definition of the Georgian State. While the Georgian side wants the draft protocol to reflect that Georgia is one single federal State within which Abkhazia enjoys certain state powers and rights, the Abkhaz side demands that the draft protocol describe the State as a union which came about as the result of a treaty between two subjects of equal status under international law.

47. Even if the draft protocol is signed in the near future, it seems unlikely that it will clearly define the political status of Abkhazia. However, it would serve as a framework for further negotiations and expert discussions not only on constitutional issues, but in other areas such as economic matters, banking, finance, transport, communications, public policy (police, administration of justice, education), social affairs and military questions.

48. It is in this planning for the implementation phase that I see an important role for the United Nations, especially as both sides, and the Russian Federation in its capacity as facilitator, have recently asked my Special Envoy to strengthen the Organization's role in the search for a comprehensive settlement. Such involvement will be closely synchronized with the efforts of the Russian Federation, in its capacity as facilitator, and those of OSCE.

49. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the Government of Switzerland for making a generous contribution to UNOMIG and for donating the services of a civilian aircraft to the Mission. I should also like to thank the

Government of the Republic of Korea for contributing to the voluntary fund established under Security Council resolution 937 (1994).

50. Finally, I thank my Special Envoy, Ambassador Edouard Brunner, his Deputy and the Head of Mission of UNOMIG, Mr. Liviu Bota, the Chief Military Observer, Major-General Per Källström, and all the military and civilian personnel under their command, for their dedication and perseverance in carrying out, under difficult conditions, the tasks entrusted to them by the Security Council.

Annex I

Programme for the protection and promotion of human rights in Abkhazia

1. Objectives

(a) Promoting respect for human rights;

(b) Protecting human rights of the population of Abkhazia in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

(c) Contributing to a safe and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced persons through improvement of the human rights situation;

(d) Reporting on human rights developments in conformity with United Nations and OSCE practices.

2. Mechanisms of implementation

(a) Monitoring the human rights situation in Abkhazia, principally for the purpose of remedy and prevention of possible human rights violations;

(b) Establishing direct contacts with competent authorities in Abkhazia and cooperating with them in taking measures to prevent and redress human rights violations;

(c) Reporting to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (and through him to the United Nations Secretary-General), as well as to the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, about the human rights situation;

(d) Providing technical assistance for the strengthening of local capacities to protect human rights;

(e) Developing human rights education;

(f) Contributing to the development of human rights structures in civil society (non-governmental organizations, grass-roots initiatives).

3. Projects and activities

(a) Providing advisory services on the drafting of laws and information on laws and legal systems in various other countries;

(b) Providing seminars and expertise for law enforcement officials, including police and prison officials;

(c) Strengthening the independence of the judiciary and the protection of human rights through seminars and the provision of expertise for judges, lawyers and procurators;

(d) Promoting awareness of international human rights standards and procedures through translation of relevant documents into Abkhaz and Russian in order to publish and disseminate them;

(e) Developing human rights education programmes for school-children and students in Abkhazia by providing experts, seminars and informational material;

(f) Providing fellowships for the population of Abkhazia to increase expertise in international human rights law;

(g) Sponsoring the participation of people from Abkhazia in international human rights seminars and conferences;

(h) Providing assistance to the Law Faculty of Abkhaz State University in the field of human rights education, including criminal law, criminal procedure and advocacy.

4. Organizational framework

(a) The implementation of the human rights programme will be coordinated by a local Office that will be established at Sukhumi;

(b) The Office at Sukhumi will be established by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

(c) A limited number of experienced United Nations and OSCE international staff (2-3 persons) will be deployed to the office;

(d) In addition, local staff will be recruited as needed, and will include secretaries, drivers and support staff.

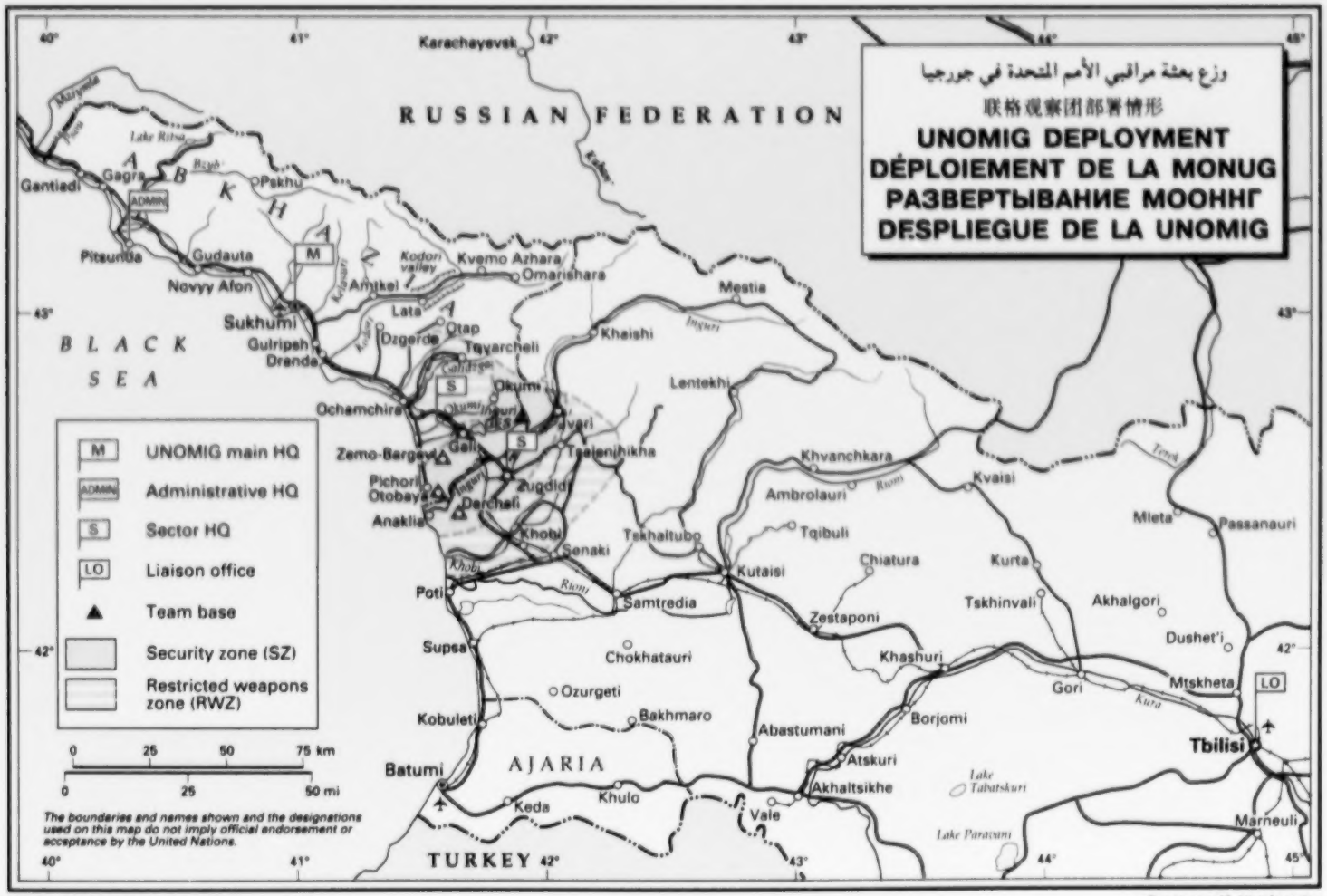
Annex II

Composition of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia at 27 March 1996

Country	Military Observers
Albania	1
Austria	4
Bangladesh	10
Cuba	4
Czech Republic	5
Denmark	5
Egypt	5
France	5
Germany	10
Greece	- a/
Hungary	7
Indonesia	6
Jordan	8
Pakistan	8
Poland	5
Republic of Korea	6
Russian Federation	3
Sweden	11
Switzerland	6
Turkey	5
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	10
United States of America	4
Uruguay	4
Total	132 b/

a/ Rotation under way.

b/ The total number of military observers may vary owing to rotations.



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S/1996/285
15 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL CONCERNING THE CREDENTIALS OF THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF GUINEA-BISSAU ON THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Pursuant to rule 15 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, the Secretary-General wishes to report that he has received credentials signed on 9 April 1996 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau stating that Mr. Rufino José Mendes has been appointed deputy representative of Guinea-Bissau on the Security Council.

In the opinion of the Secretary-General, these credentials are in order.

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UNITED
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S/1996/286
15 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 1050 (1996)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1050 (1996) of 8 March 1996, in which I was requested to report to the Council by 5 April 1996 on what arrangements had been agreed with the Government of Rwanda for the protection of the personnel and premises of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 after the withdrawal of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (UNAMIR) and on the arrangements to maintain a United Nations political office pursuant to paragraph 4 of that resolution.

2. In addition to providing the information requested above, the present report also describes the arrangements made for, and the progress of, the withdrawal of UNAMIR pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995 and 1050 (1996).

3. As the Security Council has been informed orally, negotiations on these matters with the Rwandan Government have proved difficult and I was not in a position to report to the Council by the requested date of 5 April 1996.

II. WITHDRAWAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION FOR RWANDA

4. In its resolution 1029 (1995), the Security Council decided to reduce UNAMIR to 1,200 troops and 200 military observers, headquarters and other military support staff. The Council also requested me to initiate planning for the complete withdrawal of UNAMIR, which was to take place within a period of six weeks after the expiry of the mandate on 8 March 1996.

5. Detailed plans for the withdrawal of the UNAMIR military personnel have been drawn up and are being implemented. As of 12 April 1996, a total of 679

personnel, comprising 11 military observers, 648 troops and 20 headquarters staff remained in Rwanda. It is expected that their withdrawal will be completed between 12 and 19 April (see annex).

6. In the same resolution, the Security Council also requested me to examine, in the context of existing United Nations regulations, the feasibility of transferring UNAMIR non-lethal equipment for use in Rwanda. In a letter dated 13 February 1996, the President of the Security Council urged me, in the light of the unique circumstances and recent history of Rwanda, to employ flexibility, while staying within the bounds of the regulations established by the General Assembly, in resolving the question of the disposition of UNAMIR equipment.

7. On 25 March 1996, I submitted a report to the General Assembly on the disposition of UNAMIR assets (A/50/712/Add.2), in which I indicated that the estimated inventory value of the Mission's assets as of 19 October 1995 amounted to approximately $62.5 million. I also stated in the report that non-lethal assets valued at approximately $9.2 million were earmarked for donation to the Government of Rwanda. In addition, assets considered beyond economic repair or removal, valued at approximately $6.1 million, would be made available to the Government, subject to the concurrence of the General Assembly.

8. The International Tribunal for Rwanda and the Government have reached an agreement on the rental of the Amahoro Hotel, the current UNAMIR headquarters, which is to be taken over by the Tribunal following the departure of UNAMIR. The Tribunal will take over responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the UNAMIR communications system and provide the communications needs of all other United Nations agencies in Rwanda that formerly relied on UNAMIR for this purpose.

III. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN RWANDA

9. In its resolution 1050 (1996), the Security Council encouraged me, in agreement with the Government of Rwanda, to maintain in Rwanda a United Nations office, to be headed by my Special Representative and to include the present United Nations communications system and radio station, for the purpose of supporting the efforts of the Government of Rwanda to promote national reconciliation, strengthen the judicial system, facilitate the return of refugees and rehabilitate the country's infrastructure, and of coordinating the United Nations efforts to that end.

10. At a meeting with United Nations officials in March 1996, the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations said that his Government wanted an early discussion with the Secretariat to "clarify" the mandate of the United Nations office. Although the mandate described in paragraph 4 of resolution 1050 (1996) had already been accepted by the Government, the Secretariat agreed to ask my Special Representative to meet with the Rwandan authorities as soon as possible on the matter. Following consultations held accordingly, my Special Representative informed me that, from the Government's point of view, the formal process of proposing the terms of reference, status and size of the United Nations office needed to be completed. The Government was thus insisting on a formal proposal from the United Nations, to which it would provide an

appropriate response. A draft status of mission agreement has since been prepared for discussion between my Special Representative and the Government.

11. Subject to the agreement of the Government of Rwanda and the availability of funds, the new office will be known as the United Nations Office in Rwanda (UNOR). Taking into consideration its reduced needs and functions, as well as the Organization's financial constraints, I have decided that it should be headed by a Special Representative at the Assistant Secretary-General level and that the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Rwanda will serve as his/her deputy. The Office will include four other international Professional staff: a political adviser/special assistant at P-5 level, a legal affairs officer at P-5/P-4 level, a military advisor at P-4 level and an administrative officer at P-3 level. Its support staff will consist of 10 international and locally recruited General Service staff and 2 security officers.

12. The United Nations radio station, which will be part of UNOR, will be headed by an international staff member at the P-4 level who will also be the Office spokesman and media contact. He/she will be assisted by a deputy head/programme coordinator at the P-3 level, three journalists at the P-2 level and a secretary. The radio station will continue to be assisted by 16 locally recruited journalists and staff members. With the termination of the UNAMIR mandate on 8 March 1996, "Radio UNAMIR" temporarily suspended its broadcasts pending government authorization for the station to continue to broadcast under the new name of "Radio United Nations Rwanda". The Government of Rwanda has indicated that while it has no objection to "Radio United Nations Rwanda" replacing "Radio UNAMIR", formal authorization will be conveyed after finalization of the UNOR mandate.

13. Resource requirements for UNOR will be sought from the General Assembly in due course.

IV. UNITED NATIONS TRUST FUNDS

14. With reference to paragraph 6 of resolution 1050 (1996), relating to the United Nations trust funds for Rwanda, there are currently two such funds. The Secretary-General's Trust Fund for Rwanda was established pursuant to Security Council resolution 925 (1994) in response to the urgent needs that arose out of the crisis in Rwanda and in order to finance humanitarian relief and rehabilitation programmes. The utilization of this Trust Fund is guided by the need for rapid disbursement, maximum flexibility and targeted support for the Government of Rwanda. The specific task of the Trust Fund, which is managed by the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, is to focus on non-traditional assistance such as operational costs and administrative support. By 31 March 1996, the Trust Fund had received $7.3 million, of which some $5 million has been transferred to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for implementation.

15. The second is the UNDP Trust Fund for Rwanda, which was established in March 1995 following a request by the Government of the Netherlands, with the specific purpose of supporting the follow-up efforts to the Rwanda Round Table Conference held at Geneva in January 1995. The UNDP Trust Fund's objective is

to provide the donor community with a financial mechanism to support the rapid implementation of the programme of national reconciliation and socio-economic recovery presented by the Government of Rwanda. Activities financed through the UNDP Trust Fund include rehabilitation, reconstruction, reintegration and resettlement programmes, as well as direct financial support for the Government. The total pledges to the UNDP Trust Fund, as of 31 March 1996, reached $35.5 million, out of which actual contributions totalling $20.6 million have been received.

16. As outlined, the Secretary-General's Trust Fund responds to needs for short-term humanitarian support, whereas the UNDP Trust Fund covers mid-term to long-term developmental needs in Rwanda. At the current juncture, I do not see the need to change the scope and purposes of the trust funds. However, I appeal to Member States to continue to make contributions to them in order to meet the ongoing and urgent humanitarian requirements of Rwanda.

V. SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PERSONNEL AND PREMISES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

17. In paragraph 2 of resolution 1050 (1996), the Security Council authorized elements of UNAMIR remaining in Rwanda prior to their final withdrawal to contribute, with the agreement of the Government of Rwanda, to the protection of the personnel and premises of the International Tribunal for Rwanda. Accordingly, following consultations, the Malawi infantry company of UNAMIR was retained at Kigali to assist in protecting the Tribunal until 8 April 1996.

18. Long-term measures for the protection of the International Tribunal for Rwanda are also being put in place on the basis that the primary responsibility for the security and protection of the Tribunal, its personnel, premises and investigation teams, rests with the Government of Rwanda.

19. Pursuant to discussions between the Vice-President of Rwanda, Major-General Paul Kagame, and officials of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, an understanding has been reached on the concept of security proposed by the United Nations Security Coordinator in November 1995. Accordingly, United Nations security officers will be responsible for security within the Tribunal's premises and for accompanying investigation teams. The original United Nations proposal was that the security of the premises be augmented by a local company contracted to provide guard service. However, Vice-President Kagame was unable to accept this; instead, he offered to make available Rwandan gendarmes whom the Tribunal would recruit on an individual basis. This proposal is presently under review in the light of the general responsibilities of the Government of Rwanda for the security and protection of the Tribunal and its staff.

20. In accordance with the above understanding, United Nations security officers would be authorized to bring the required arms and ammunition into Rwanda and to import other security equipment such as ballistic vests, binoculars and training ammunition necessary for their work. The Government of Rwanda has also appointed a senior-level liaison officer to discuss the implementation of these security arrangements with the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and consultations with him have already begun. In addition, the

Government has agreed to provide a rapid reaction force to assist the Tribunal in the event of an emergency beyond the capacity of the Tribunal's security to resolve and has pledged the assistance of local authorities in providing security for the Tribunal's investigation teams.

21. It is expected that, following further discussions with the Government of Rwanda on the practical modalities of the security arrangements, a written agreement will be reached, probably on the basis of an exchange of letters between the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the Government.

22. In the meantime, the recruitment of a Chief Security Officer and security officers has gone forward, and the Chief Security Officer visited Kigali on 16 March 1996. A proposal calling for the recruitment of a Deputy Chief Security Officer at the Professional level, 18 international United Nations security officers and a locally contracted guard force, as originally recommended to meet the Tribunal's basic security requirements, is now being considered by the appropriate legislative bodies. The recruitment of the international personnel is under way and 12 security officers are now in place.

VI. HUMAN RIGHTS

23. In paragraph 7 of its resolution 1050 (1996), the Security Council called upon States to contribute urgently to the costs of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda, and encouraged me to consider what steps might be taken to place the Operation on a more secure financial basis. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has advised me that, in the absence of sufficient financial resources, it has not been possible to maintain the required number of staff. He considers that 120 human rights field officers constitute the minimum presence necessary for a professionally sound human rights operation in Rwanda. However, by mid-March the number of staff on the ground had been reduced from 120 to 95, of whom only 78 were human rights monitors.

24. As the High Commissioner has reiterated on numerous occasions, the lack of secure and predictable sources of funding continues to create serious impediments to the coherent planning and stable functioning of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda. In particular, the ongoing work of the Operation with the Government of Rwanda at all levels, as well as the Operation's administrative and logistical planning, remain hampered by the fact that voluntary contributions, for which the High Commissioner is very grateful, are decreasing. The estimated operating cost of the Operation from 1 April 1996 to the end of the year amounts to $8.5 million.

25. The presence of human rights monitors in the field is crucial, especially at a time when the refugees are being encouraged to return and when the Rwandan justice system is not yet functioning adequately. To ensure the smooth running of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda after the withdrawal of UNAMIR, it is essential that the Government of Rwanda continue to cooperate and provide information and adequate security to the field teams.

26. The Government of Rwanda has consistently supported the presence of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda and expressed the wish that the Operation

be maintained after the departure of UNAMIR. In the Declaration adopted at the Tunis summit of the heads of State of the Great Lakes region on 18 March 1996, it was reaffirmed that Rwanda would welcome the deployment of an expanded number of human rights monitors throughout the country and was prepared to permit the number to rise to 300. The Declaration also stressed, however, that the necessary resources should be made available.

VII. OBSERVATIONS

27. As I stated in my previous report on UNAMIR on 29 February 1996, I remain convinced that, in spite of the withdrawal of the Mission, a number of outstanding issues still need to be addressed in Rwanda with the support of the international community. It is my belief that the Office proposed in the present report will serve that function effectively.

28. I had hoped to be able to report to the Security Council that agreement had been reached with the Government of Rwanda on the establishment of UNOR and that there could therefore be a smooth transition from UNAMIR to the new Office when the former's funding expires on 19 April 1996. Unfortunately, this is not the case. In spite of intensive efforts by my Special Representative, it has not yet been possible to confirm the Government's acceptance of the mandate described in paragraph 4 of resolution 1050 (1996), on which the Government is still seeking "clarifications". Nor has the Government yet confirmed its agreement that the United Nations should continue to operate a radio station in Rwanda. On the other hand, agreement has now been reached on the new rent to be paid, mainly by the International Tribunal for Rwanda, for the premises previously occupied by UNAMIR which are to be taken over by the Tribunal and UNOR. But it appears unlikely that the other outstanding issues can be resolved by the time my Special Representative leaves Rwanda on 19 April. I am therefore sending the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs on an urgent mission to Kigali to carry the negotiations forward after my Special Representative's departure. I will report to the Security Council on the outcome as soon as possible.

29. The establishment of UNOR will not only require the formal approval of the Government of Rwanda. Like the continuation of the Human Rights Field Operation in Rwanda, it will also be possible only if Member States are prepared to ensure that the necessary financial resources are made available. In this connection, I believe it would be useful if the Security Council formally stated its approval for the establishment of an office along the lines I have proposed.

30. As called for in paragraph 3 of resolution 1050 (1996), I trust that the Government of Rwanda will take the necessary measures to ensure that UNAMIR personnel and equipment can be withdrawn without impediment in an orderly and safe manner.

31. As the departure date of the last UNAMIR elements approaches, I wish to reiterate my warm appreciation to my Special Representative, Mr. Shaharyar Khan, and to all his dedicated staff who have carried out their task so ably under sometimes trying conditions.

Annex

Composition of the military component of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda as at 12 April 1996

Country	Military personnel			Total
	Troops	Staff	Observers	
Austria	-	-	1	1
Ghana	-	6	2	8
India	555	6	3	564
Malawi	83	-	-	83
Nigeria	-	2	3	5
Senegal	-	1	1	2
Zambia	10	5	1	16
Total	648	20	11	679

UNITED
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Security Council

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S/1996/287
16 April 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CAMEROON TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit the letter addressed to you from the President of the Republic of Cameroon, Mr. Paul Biya, in connection with order No. 94 issued by the International Court of Justice on 15 March 1996 concerning the border dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Moussa ALIOU
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

96-09550 (E) 160496 160496 170496

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Annex

Letter dated 12 April 1996 from the President of the Republic of Cameroon addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have learned with interest of the protective measures which, at Cameroon's request, the International Court of Justice recently decreed in connection with the dispute between my country and Nigeria regarding the Bakassi peninsula.

In this connection, I should like to assure you that Cameroon fully supports all these measures. It is in this spirit that my country confirms its determination to refrain, except in self-defence, from any act that might aggravate the dispute or prejudice the ultimate decision by the Court.

I should also like to reiterate to you my country's commitment to respect the cease-fire agreed by the two parties on 17 February 1996 under the agreements reached in Kara (Togo).

For Cameroon, the return of the forces to the positions held prior to the submission of the case to the Court is the only way to ensure peace and security in the region until the Court hands down its final decision. It is in this spirit that we endorse the protective measure decreed by the International Court of Justice in this regard.

As I told your predecessor, Cameroon welcomes the prompt dispatching of a fact-finding mission to Bakassi by the Secretary-General. We wish to assure the mission in advance that we shall provide our full cooperation and any assistance necessary for the successful completion of its mandate.

In this connection, Cameroon would like you to entrust the mission with, inter alia, the task of informing the Court on the following points:

- The situation of the subsequent military positions of each of the parties since the Court was seized of the matter;
- The general state of the locality as a result of the armed incidents;
- Construction of any type being undertaken by Nigeria on the Bakassi peninsula;
- Nigeria's intentions regarding Cameroonian investments in the area;
- The presence of administrative services on the Bakassi peninsula and the entity to which they belong;
- The number of oil deposits, their ownership and the extent of their exploitation.

(Signed) Paul BIYA

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S/1996/288
16 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 15 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement by the Government of the Republic of Uganda on the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1044 (1996) (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Perezi Karukubiro KAMUNANWIRE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-09575 (E) 170496 180496

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Annex

Statement by Uganda on the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1044 (1996)

1. Uganda has taken note of the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution 1044 (1996) circulated in document S/1996/179 of 11 March 1996.

2. Uganda has also taken note of the commentary by the Government of the Sudan on the Secretary-General's report, contained in document S/1996/201 of 15 March 1996, and is obliged to respond to allegations made against it in that commentary.

3. Uganda expresses its gratitude to the Secretary-General for the report of his Special Envoy, Mr. Chinmaya Gharekhan, who visited Uganda on 23 February 1996 and held discussions with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, the Honourable Kintu Musoke. Uganda wishes to draw the attention of the Council to the fact that the state of relations between Uganda and the Sudan has not improved since then.

4. The Sudan has not stopped its activities of assisting, supporting, facilitating and giving shelter and sanctuary to the rebels of the Lords Resistance Army of Joseph Kony. The Sudan has also rendered similar support to the West Nile Bank Front rebels of Juma Oris who operate from bases within its territory against Uganda, in contravention of the Charters of the United Nations and of the Organization of African Unity. In the Gulu and Kitgum districts of northern Uganda, where the rebels operating from their secure bases inside the Sudan have made several incursions, a lot of horrendous atrocities have been perpetrated against innocent civilians. The latest of these incursions was when more than 500 rebels crossed into Uganda from Aru in the Sudan, by way of Mogali, on 7 February 1996. Over 50 civilians have been killed since this rebel group crossed into Uganda. Several millions of dollars worth of personal and State property have also been looted or destroyed.

5. In addition to the rebel incursions, the Sudanese armed forces have also shelled and its air force bombed Uganda territory on a number of occasions. In a determine continuation of its policy of unprovoked aggression against Uganda, Sudanese armed forces based in Kaya, using a variety of artillery pieces, shelled the territory between Keri and Oraba in north-west Uganda for three consecutive days between 8 and 10 April 1996. On the first day, the shelling was sustained from 6.30 p.m. continuing throughout the night. On the following day, shelling started at 8.45 a.m. and ended at 2.30 p.m. It then resumed on the third day at 6.15 a.m. continuing to 12 noon. Sudanese air force planes also dropped bombs in the same area on 9 April 1996. Uganda condemns in the strongest terms possible these unprovoked acts of aggression. Uganda calls upon the Security Council, the Organization of African Unity and the international community to equally condemn the Sudan in the strongest possible terms and also requests that the strongest possible measures be taken to dissuade the Sudan from committing any further acts of unprovoked aggression against Uganda.

6. In the commentary on the Secretary-General's report (S/1996/201, para. 16), the Sudan has denied its involvement in support of Uganda's rebels, giving as a pretext the allegations that the rebel movement in southern Sudan controls approaches to our common border. It should be noted, however, that southern Sudan is a vast area that is sparsely populated and that, in these circumstances, it is easy for the rebels to filter through the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army lines. Furthermore, the Government of the Sudan controls the area along our common border west of the river Nile. The revelations of the rebels captured in clashes with the Uganda armed forces along the common border area and the supplies and military hardware captured from them are clear evidence of the Sudanese Government's involvement and complicity in our destabilization.

7. The Sudan also accuses Uganda of supplying arms, men, logistics, and military and political support and of providing transit and access to all forces and parties that are supporting the insurgency in southern Sudan. In a ridiculous allegation, the Sudan has even gone to the extent of accusing Uganda of invading the Sudan with tanks and heavy weapons in October 1995. This is not the first time such wild allegations have been made by the Sudan against Uganda. Uganda categorically dismisses these allegations with the utter contempt they deserve. These are standard practices of Sudanese propaganda to hoodwink the world. The war in southern Sudan is purely an internal conflict between the Sudanese people themselves. Uganda believes that the solution to that conflict can only be forged by the Sudanese people themselves. Uganda's interest in the Sudan conflict has been in the framework of the peace initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development. The aim of this initiative has been to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in the Sudan. Indeed, Uganda has participated actively in the interest of peace and stability in the region.

8. In its commentary on the Secretary-General's report (para. 17), the Sudan has fabricated allegations that Uganda manoeuvred to distance the Sudanese military monitoring team away from roads used to transport supplies to the insurgency in southern Sudan and that because of this, the Sudan decided to withdraw the team. These allegations are blatantly false.

9. In 1990, with a view to allaying the Sudan's fears and endless allegations, Uganda invited the Sudan to station a military monitoring team on the Uganda side of our common border. The purpose was to ascertain whether Uganda was indeed supporting the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army with war logistics. Uganda did not determine the locations of the Sudanese military monitoring team at Arua, Moyo, Laropi and Pakwach bridge, all points leading to southern Sudan. It was indeed the Sudanese side who chose and stationed themselves at these locations, despite allegations to the contrary. After four months of operation, the Sudanese Government requested and was granted extension of locations to Gulu and Atiak in northern Uganda. By October 1994, after monitoring the situation for four years, the team had not come up with any evidence of Uganda's alleged support for the Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army.

10. The truth of the matter is that the Sudanese military monitoring team did not withdraw but was requested to do so by Uganda in October 1995. This was due to the violation of the agreement and operational guidelines under which the

team operated. Furthermore, the team was involved in activities aimed at compromising the security of Uganda and had taken on the role of an intelligence arm for the Uganda rebels operating from the Sudan.

11. Uganda is committed to its policy of good-neighbourliness and peaceful coexistence with all its neighbours. Uganda calls upon the Security Council to live up to its responsibility with regard to maintaining international peace and security. In this connection, therefore, Uganda reiterates the need for the Council to take any measures necessary, including an arms embargo against the Sudan, to ensure that it desists from engaging in activities that are not only destabilizing Uganda but are plunging the entire subregion into chaos.

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16 April 1996
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NOTE VERBALE DATED 3 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF COLOMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Mission of Colombia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General and has the honour to inform him, with reference to the request contained in note SCA/10/96(1) of 22 January 1996, that the competent national entities, including the Bank of the Republic (Central Bank), the Special Administrative Unit for Civil Aviation and the General Command of the Armed Forces, have issued the relevant instructions to give effect to Security Council resolutions 748 (1992) and 883 (1993).

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General Assembly
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A/51/117
S/1996/290
16 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Fifty-first session
Item 79 of the preliminary list*
AFRICAN NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE TREATY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-first year

Letter dated 12 April 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of the European Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith a declaration by the Presidency of the European Union on the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 79 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) F. Paolo FULCI
Ambassador

* A/51/50.

96-09607 (E) 160496 170496

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ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Declaration by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the signature of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty)

The European Union welcomes the signature in Cairo on 11 April 1996 of the Pelindaba Treaty establishing the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

The Treaty is in line with the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament issued by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which recognized that the creation of nuclear-weapon-free zones enhances global and regional peace and security.

The European Union considers that nuclear-weapon-free zones are welcome complementary instruments to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the universality of which the European Union continues to promote.

The central and eastern European countries associated with the European Union and the associated countries Cyprus and Malta align themselves with this Declaration.

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S/1996/291
17 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 17 APRIL 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the communiqué on the signing of the Agreement on the regulation of relations and promotion of cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in Belgrade, on 8 April 1996, as well as the integral text of the Agreement.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Denko MALESKI
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

96-09690 (E) 180496 190496

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Annex

Communiqué on the signing of the Agreement on the regulation of relations and promotion of cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

Belgrade, 8 April 1996

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, Dr. Ljubomir Frckoski, and the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Mr. Milan Milutinovic, signed the Agreement on the regulation of relations and promotion of cooperation between the two countries on 8 April 1996.

The two sides expressed their interest in living in peace and good-neighbourliness, which will contribute to a positive development of the overall political situation in the region of the Balkans.

According to the provisions of the Agreement, both sides respect each other as independent States within their international borders. Each party shall respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the other party. The parties have established diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level. In the light of the historical facts, both States mutually respect their state continuity (the Republic of Macedonia respects the state continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia respects the state continuity of the Republic of Macedonia). The question of mutual claims on grounds of succession to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia shall be resolved by agreement, in accordance with international norms and principles. The rights of persons belonging to national minorities in both States shall be protected in accordance with the highest international standards. Both States shall work on the improvement of their cooperation in all spheres where there is a common interest: economy, transportation, culture, ecology, etc.

The Agreement is in conformity with the principled conduct of the Republic of Macedonia in the development of good-neighbourly relations among the Balkan States expressed in General Assembly resolutions 48/84 B and 50/80 B, whose unanimous adoption was initiated by the delegation of the Republic of Macedonia, as well as with relevant resolutions of the Security Council - 757 (1992) and 777 (1992) - and General Assembly resolution 47/1.

Appendix

Agreement on the Regulation of Relations and Promotion of Cooperation between the Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia ("the Parties"),

Aware of their responsibility for the establishment and maintenance of peace and security in the region,

Guided by the principles contained in the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and the Paris Charter,

Desiring to promote good relations between their citizens and nations,

Desiring to contribute thereby to the regulation of mutual relations,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall respect each other as independent States within their international borders.

Article 2

Each Party shall respect the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the other Party. The Parties affirm that they shall settle disputes in a peaceful manner and shall refrain from threats or use of force, in conformity with the United Nations Charter. The Parties shall endeavour to strengthen mutual confidence, good will and tolerance and shall cooperate on the promotion of peace, good-neighbourliness and stability in the region.

The two Parties shall establish a joint diplomatic-expert commission within 30 days of the day of signing of the Agreement. The said Commission shall prepare a draft international agreement that shall describe in the form of text the alignment of the joint state border, to which geographic maps of the joint state border shall be attached as an integral part.

Afterwards the two Parties shall conclude the proposed international agreement.

Article 3

With the signing of the present Agreement, the Parties shall establish diplomatic relations at the level of ambassadors.

Article 4

In the light of the fact that Serbia and Montenegro had existed as independent States before the creation of Yugoslavia, and in view of the fact that Yugoslavia continued the international legal personality of these States, the Republic of Macedonia respects the state continuity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

In the light of the fact that during the National Liberation War and at the session of the Anti-Fascist Assembly of the National Liberation of Macedonia, the Macedonian people decided to organize the Republic of Macedonia as a State and to join the Yugoslav Federation, and in view of the fact that in the 1991 referendum the Macedonian people decided to organize the Republic of Macedonia as a sovereign and independent State and appreciating the fact that this has been carried out in a peaceful manner, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia respects the state continuity of the Republic of Macedonia.

The Parties agree to resolve their mutual claims on grounds of succession to the former Yugoslavia by agreement.

Article 5

The Parties shall fully protect rights of persons belonging to national minorities within their borders, in accordance with the highest international standards.

Article 6

The Parties shall work on the improvement of road, railway and air traffic, as well as postal telephone, telex and other telecommunications. The Parties shall refrain from imposing any kind of restrictions with regard to the movement of people and goods to each other's territory or over the territory of either of the Parties to the territory of the other Party. The Parties shall cooperate in order to facilitate such movement, in accordance with international law and customs.

Article 7

In order to strengthen and intensify economic and commercial ties in all fields, including in the field of industrial cooperation, the Parties shall immediately start negotiations on the conclusion of an Agreement on Economic Cooperation and Trade, with the aim of developing mutually beneficial economic

and trade relations. The Parties shall also resolve the issue of property of natural and legal persons, on the basis of reciprocity and by an agreement.

Article 8

The Parties shall cooperate on the preservation and protection of the environment, especially on the elimination of all types of cross-border pollution. The Parties shall endeavour to develop and coordinate strategies and programmes for regional and international cooperation in the field of environmental protection. Reaffirming the importance of these aims, the Parties shall immediately start negotiations with the purpose of reaching, as soon as possible, agreements on cooperation in the field of environmental protection.

The Parties shall develop and promote cooperation in the field of health, as well as cooperation relating to prevention of infectious diseases of flora and fauna.

Article 9

The Parties shall cooperate on the protection and maintenance of buildings and monuments which are part of the cultural heritage, on the basis of provisions of international law. The Parties shall promote cultural relations, and shall stimulate and facilitate all types of cultural exchange. The Parties shall immediately start negotiations on these issues in order to reach an Agreement on Cultural Cooperation.

The Parties shall develop and promote cooperation in the field of sport.

Article 10

The Parties shall develop and promote scientific and technical cooperation. They shall facilitate exchange of information on scientific and technical documentation and shall endeavour to promote mutual access to research institutions, archives, libraries and similar institutions. In this regard the Parties shall immediately start negotiations in order to sign an Agreement on Scientific and Technical Cooperation.

Article 11

This Agreement is done in two original copies, in the Macedonian and Serbian languages, both copies being equally authentic.

This Agreement shall apply as from the day of its signing, and shall enter into force as soon as both Parties have informed each other, through diplomatic channels, of its approval by their respective responsible organs.

Done at Belgrade on 8 April 1996.

For the Republic of Macedonia

(Signed) Ljubomir FRCKOSKI

For the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

(Signed) Milan MILUTINOVIC

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Security Council

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S/1996/292
18 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Taking note of the letters from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon dated 13 April 1996 (S/1996/280 and S/1996/281),

Having heard the statement of the Permanent Representative of Lebanon,

Gravely concerned at the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East and its consequences to the maintenance of international peace and security,

Convinced that the present situation impedes the achievement of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the necessity to respect the Geneva conventions of 1949 in particular, the provisions related to the protection of civilians during armed conflict and the responsibility of the high contracting parties to ensure the full compliance with its provisions,

Noting that the military actions by the Israeli armed forces against the electrical power stations and residential areas were premeditated and carefully planned,

1. Calls upon Israel immediately to cease its military action against the Lebanese territorial integrity and withdraw forthwith its forces from all Lebanese territory;

2. Calls for strict respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries;

3. Calls also upon Israel to fully implement all relevant Security Council resolutions, in particular resolution 425 (1978);

4. Strongly condemns the Israeli aggression against Lebanon which has brought about high tolls of civilian casualties, led to the displacement of hundreds of thousands of civilians and a massive destruction of Lebanon's infrastructure;

5. Strongly condemns the bombardment of the archaeological and cultural sites and monuments in the city of Tyre which are internationally protected, in accordance with international law and The Hague Convention of 1954, and which are considered by UNESCO as heritage to all mankind;

6. Requests the Secretary-General to launch a massive plan of action to assist the Government of Lebanon to overcome the hardships resulting from the Israeli aggression in order to allow the Lebanese Government to sustain its reconstruction efforts;

7. Stresses the responsibilities of the United Nations and its agencies towards the humanitarian needs of the Lebanese civilian population, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure the discharge of those responsibilities in coordination with the Government of Lebanon;

8. Considers that Lebanon is entitled to appropriate redress for the destruction it has suffered and holds Israel responsible for adequate compensations for such destruction;

9. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed on developments and in no later than twenty-four hours;

10. Decides to remain seized of the matter.

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Security Council

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S/1996/293
26 April 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Botswana, Chile, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau and Honduras:
draft resolution

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its resolution 1044 (1996) of 31 January 1996,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 11 March 1996 (S/1996/179) submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 1044 (1996) and the conclusions contained therein,

Gravely alarmed at the terrorist assassination attempt on the life of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 26 June 1995, and convinced that those responsible for that act must be brought to justice,

Taking note that the statements of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of 11 September 1995, and of 19 December 1995 (S/1996/10, annexes I and II) considered the attempt on the life of President Mubarak as aimed, not only at the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and not only at the sovereignty, integrity and stability of Ethiopia, but also at Africa as a whole,

Regretting the fact that the Government of Sudan has not yet complied with the requests of the Central Organ of the OAU set out in those statements,

Taking note of the continued effort of the OAU Secretary-General to ensure Sudan's compliance with the requests of the Central Organ of the OAU,

Taking note also, with regret, that the Government of Sudan has not responded adequately to the efforts of the OAU,

Deeply alarmed that the Government of Sudan has failed to comply with the requests set out in paragraph 4 of resolution 1044 (1996),

Reaffirming that the suppression of acts of international terrorism, including those in which States are involved is essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Determining that the non-compliance by the Government of Sudan with the requests set out in paragraph 4 of resolution 1044 (1996) constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Determined to eliminate international terrorism and to ensure effective implementation of resolution 1044 (1996) and to that end acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. Demands that the Government of Sudan comply without further delay with the requests set out in paragraph 4 of resolution 1044 (1996) by:

(a) Taking immediate action to ensure extradition to Ethiopia for prosecution of the three suspects sheltered in Sudan and wanted in connection with the assassination attempt of 26 June 1995 on the life of the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; and

(b) Desisting from engaging in activities of assisting, supporting and facilitating terrorist activities and from giving shelter and sanctuary to terrorist elements; and henceforth acting in its relations with its neighbours and with others in full conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with the Charter of the OAU;

2. Decides that the provisions set out in paragraph 3 below shall come into force at 00.01 Eastern Standard Time on 10 May 1996, and shall remain in force until the Council determines that the Government of Sudan has complied with paragraph 1 above;

3. Decides that all States shall:

(a) Significantly reduce the number and the level of the staff at Sudanese diplomatic missions and consular posts and restrict or control the movement within their territory of all such staff who remain;

(b) Take steps to restrict the entry into or transit through their territory of members of the Government of Sudan, officials of that Government and members of the Sudanese armed forces;

4. Calls upon all international and regional organizations not to convene any conference in Sudan;

5. Calls upon all States, including States not members of the United Nations and the United Nations specialized agencies to act strictly in conformity with this resolution, notwithstanding the existence of any rights granted or obligations conferred or imposed by any international agreement or of any contract entered into or any licence or permit granted prior to the entry into force of the provisions set out in paragraph 3 above;

6. Requests States to report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations within 60 days from the adoption of this resolution on the steps they have taken to give effect to the provisions set out in paragraph 3 above;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to submit an initial report to the Council within 60 days of the date specified in paragraph 2 above on the implementation of this resolution;

8. Decides to re-examine the matter, 60 days after the date specified in paragraph 2 above and to consider, on the basis of the facts established by the Secretary-General, whether Sudan has complied with the demands in paragraph 1 above and, if not, whether to adopt further measures to ensure its compliance;

9. Decides to remain seized of the matter.